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THE CASE OF *JAMES GOODWIN*, Chymiſt and Apothecary.

Upon his Petition to the Houſe of Lords, againſt continuing the Act *for viewing, ſearching and examining Druggs, Medicines*, &c.

THAT the Inconveniencies which were, in ſome Meaſure, foreſeen, when the Bill for making the ſaid Law was firſt depending in Parliament, have ſince plainly and manifeſtly appeared. For tho' the Powers by the ſaid Law given to the Cenſors and College of Phyſicians, if executed with Judgment, Juſtice and Integrity, might prove beneficial to the Subjects; yet the ſame Powers, when executed by Perſons unskill'd, and under the Influence of Malice and Reſentment, and in View to prevent the Payment of their juſt Debts, and to gratify their particular Prejudices, and accompliſh their Threatnings, (as the ſaid *Goodwin* humbly hopes to make appear) may deſtroy Thouſands of his Majeſty's good Subjects.

That Dr. *Shadwell* being indebted to the ſaid *Goodwin* for Druggs and Medicines, the ſaid Doctor had ſent for to himſelf and Family, and had often been ask'd for Payment, by a Perſon employ'd to collect in Debts due to the ſaid *Goodwin*, the Doctor firſt deny'd the Debt, and then when *Goodwin* went himſelf with the Account, he told him, *He wonder'd he would ask him for Money, for Medicines for himſelf and his own Family.* But *Goodwin* inſiſting on Payment, the Doctor ſaid, *If he ask'd him any more for Payment, that he would complain to the College, that he ſold him bad Medicines, and Care ſhould be taken to have him ſufficiently plagued*, or Words to that Effect. Upon which Words the ſaid *Goodwin* ask'd the Doctor what was amiſs, or why he had not return'd it, or complain'd ſooner: The Doctor mention'd one particular, which when the ſaid *Goodwin* came to look into his Books, found no ſuch Article charg'd on the Doctor's Account, nor did it appear that the ſaid Doctor had ever bought the Thing mention'd of him; but this being told the Doctor, ſerv'd only to warm his Reſentment againſt the ſaid *Goodwin*, as hereafter is mention'd.

That Mr. *Goodwin*'s Druggs and Medicines having been yearly view'd before paſſing the ſaid Act, were conſtantly approv'd of, and no Complaint made by any one of thoſe appointed to inſpect the ſame.

But

But Mr. *Goodwin* applying to the Royal *African* Company, to ſupply them with Medicines, Druggs, &c. which he was willing to ſubmit to have view'd, not only by the Cenſors of the College of Phyſicians, but alſo by the Company of Appothecaries; and Mr. *Goodwin* being ſo employ'd as aforeſaid, by the Royal *African* Company, tho' oppos'd very much by Dr. *Levit* and others, who uſed all the Means imaginable to deſtroy his Reputation, on the Behalf of their Friends that oppos'd him; he, the ſaid *Gooawin*, became thereby more ſubject to their Reſentment, the Conſequence of which hath prov'd very fatal to him:

For, on the 10th of *June*, 1724, theſe Gentlemen were pleaſed to diſtinguiſh themſelves, by making free with the Goods, Property, and Reputation of one of their Fellow-Subjects, Dr. *Arbuthnot*, Dr. *Bale*, and others, came into Mr. *Goodwin*'s Shop, and being told Mr. *Goodwin* was gone to the *African* Houſe, and Mrs. *Goodwin* alſo in the City, they declared it was the only Time to begin, and then (as Mr. *Goodwin* is informed by his Servants, altho they uſed all the Entreaties and Prayers to the Cenſors to give Leave to ſend for their Maſter) yet, without making any Diſtinction betwixt one Drugg or Medicine, burnt and deſtroyed for ſome Time what came to their Hands; and afterwards ſome of theſe Gentlemen aſk'd the Servants in the Shop, if they would appeal to the College; that the Servants declared they did appeal to the College, to a valuable Medicine the Phyſicians had then before them; and one of the Servants in particular ſaid, I appeal to this Medicine; but one belonging to the Cenſors, took it from him, and by their Orders threw it away into the Street, ſaying, they ſhould not appeal to that, but only to ſuch as they had pitch'd upon, purpoſely to make another Fire. After about Three Hours Search, they found ſome old Plaiſters, ſome of them the Property of other Perſons, being the Remains of Surgeons Cheſts brought back from *Africa*, after Two or Three Years, them they ſealed up, and ſent them to their College.

It is to be obſerved, that during the Cenſors ſevere Inquiſition, divers Perſons came to buy ſeveral Goods in the ſaid Shop, which the Cenſors prevented by one Means or other; and particularly one Perſon came to buy ſome Oyl of Aniſeeds, but Dr. *Arbuthnot* perſwaded him againſt it, and told him it was not good, and that there was nothing good in the Shop, which prevented him from buying it.

When the Cenſors had done what Miſchief there they thought proper, they went to another Shop belonging to Mr. *Goodwin*, in *Charles-Street* in *Weſtminſter*, where they firſt enquired who kept that Shop, (altho' they very well knew.) After the Servant had told them, they ask'd him if any one was concerned with him He anſwered, no. They asked again, are you ſure of it. The Servant ſaid, I'm ſure of it. Upon which they ſpoke one to another, come let us begin; whereupon they pulled out of their Places ſeveral Drawers, took down from the Shelves Bottles, Pots, and Glaſſes, and condemned all that came to their Hands, without Exception.

It ſeems very wonderful, theſe Gentlemen the Cenſors, ſhould have ſuch a penetrating Genius above the reſt of Mankind, to find nothing good in Mr. *Goodwin*'s Poſſeſſion, when at the ſame Time, there is ſcarce an Apothecary's Shop in *England*, but by one Means or other, hath good Medicaments of Mr. *Goodwin*'s making; if ſo, it is very ſtrange, he ſhould never keep any good himſelf.

But to return to *Weſtminſter*, where we left the Doctors throwing Mr. *Goodwin*'s Goods into the Street, and asking the Servant there to appeal; and upon his Refuſal they threatned him, that they would deſtroy every Thing in the Shop. However, when they had thrown away what they thought proper, notwithſtanding he would not appeal, they ſent for a Box, and put divers Goods therein, ſealed them up with two of the Cenſors Seals *only*, and

cauſed

cauſed them to be ſent to the College, as aforeſaid, and ſent *Goodwin* a Summons to attend at the College in *Warwick-Lane*, the 17th Day of *June*; which Summons was dated the 15th of the ſame Month, and left in the Shop in *Charles-Street, Weſtminſter.* He had likewiſe another Summons ſent him to his Dwelling-Houſe at *Charing-Croſs*, to attend the very ſame Time, for Goods taken from his Dwelling-Houſe aforeſaid; which Summons was dated the 13th of the ſaid Month of *June*; and accordingly the ſaid Mr. *Goodwin*, with his Servants, did attend at the College aforeſaid, and there ſaw one of the Boxes, as aforeſaid, opened, and it plainly appeared upon Examination, that not one Phyſician there, could tell the Quantity of any Drugg deficient in any of the Medicines before them, and therefore could not give any Judgment but by Samples which they had procured for that Purpoſe, tho' the ſaid *Goodwin* humbly conceives that Method will not be deemed a fair way of judging.

For if that be the Caſe, no Man in the World is ſafe. It is evident, there are ſo many Accidents both in the compounding and keeping of Medicines, that the very Medicine it ſelf will not bear the ſame Face one Month together, but it will be either thicker or thinner, or its Colour will alter extremly.

For Inſtance, the Melilot Plaiſter produced for a Sample to condemn the other by, was juſt freſh made, when the Herb had its compleat Verdour, and in the proper Seaſon of the Year, and as green as poſſibly to be imagin'd, without any Regard to the others being ſo long in *Africa*, tumbled about, and grown of a pale yellowiſh Green, by the ſcorching Sun, and by the ſame Rule the reſt was condemned and deſtroyed, before his own Door, and put into the publick Prints, to do the ſaid *Goodwin* all the Prejudice poſſible.

Mr. *Goodwin* deſired the Cenſors to open the other Box brought from *Charles-Street, Weſtminſter*, but was abſolutely refuſed, (altho' he demanded it Two or Three Times) for the Reaſons following, as he humbly conceives, 1*ſt*, Their taking them away contrary to Law. 2*dly*, That when the Heat of their Paſſion was abated, and having really examined them amongſt themſelves, could find no Fault, therefore they thought proper to conceal them, and have not hitherto returned the ſame, tho' required ſo to do; ſo that they have not only deſtroyed thoſe they pretended were defective, but have defrauded the ſaid *Goodwin* of theſe taken from his ſaid Shop in *Weſtminſter*, which he humbly preſumes is neither agreeable to the Words or Intention of the ſaid Law.

THE CASE OF JAMES GOODWIN, Chymist and Apothecary.

Upon his Petition to the House of Lords, against continuing the Act for viewing, searching and examing Druggs, Medicines, &c.

1727.